

The Presbyterian of the South

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Church News

The January Collection is for the Assembly's Home Missions. Make remittances to Mr. A. N. Sharpe, Atlanta, Ga.

In his speech on ascending the throne of Belgium, Albert I., the new king, made this significant statement: "In the Congo the nation wishes a policy of humanity and progress enforced. The mission of colonization cannot be other than a mission of high civilization. Belgium always has kept her promises, and when she engages to apply in the Congo a policy worthy of her, none has a right to doubt her word." This is commonly understood to mean that he will forbid the Congo atrocities.

ATLANTA CENTRAL CHURCH CHRISTMAS GREETING FROM DR. RICE.

My Dear Weekly: The other day (I forget the exact date) the Western Union Telegraph office called me up by 'phone and read me a message from your Editor, asking, in your pastor's name, for a Christmas letter to be sent by the 21st.

This fall's work has been very much more delightful than last year was. I've been so much better and stronger physically. I hardly know myself sometimes because I feel so normal and well. I have enjoyed my teaching with keenest zest and have done much better work. I have found my classes in the main very responsive and they have passed thus far creditable examinations, a thing in which their teacher as well as they feel a lot of grateful satisfaction.

During the first half of the session I lectured to my senior class on Church work in its various practical phases and the material was drawn largely from

the history and achievements of the dear old Central Church. Again and again she was quoted as authority or used as inspiring example. And our men are going out this year with their ideals of practical work largely shaped by the principles and methods which have been tried out by you. In short, I am teaching here to the ministry of our Southern Church, the great lessons we learned together during the twelve years of delightful co-operation as pastor and people.

I have wandered on thus about myself and my work in the professorship because I felt it would interest you—it is entitled to interest you. For you gave me to this work and you have followed me into it with your prayers and it is in answer to those prayers, in large measure doubtless, that health and energy have come back to me and my work has in any wise prospered. Just as you are maintaining a work on the mission fields by your intercessory prayers for your representatives there, so you are abiding the great work of preparing a ministry for the Church of God by your prayers which follow Dr. Strickler and myself in our work in the seminary. Do not forget us. Let me assure you afresh of my gratitude for your priceless help in this way.

We read with much interest of Dr. Ogden's preaching and his plans and pastoral work and of your thoughtful care of him. Continue to take the best of care of him and his dear ones, and never, never cease to pray for him and his ministry among you. We preachers need more than anything else the blessing of God on our souls which comes in answer to prayer.

What a beautiful season we have had as to weather! With us, it has been just perfect.

We are well and grateful for many, many blessings, and send you all a great deal of love.

Ever affectionately yours,

Theron H. Rice.

ARKANSAS.

Newport: Our meeting here at Newport, Ark., has been held at a time of the year (just before Christmas) when both business demands as well as plans of pleasure are especially pressing upon the time and thought of every one; such conditions, with the addition of much unfavorable weather, have prevailed. But our work must go on, and let conditions and seasons be taken as they come. I have learned that frequently those times and seasons which promise most do not yield the best results, and others, not so promising, result most favorably. Energy, earnestness and intelligent enthusiasm, at all times and everywhere, give good results. I write these things by way of encouragement, as I am often told by brethren that there are only certain times when revival services can be held with any expectation of favorable results. Our church here has been without a pastor for over a year. A "call" has just been given to Rev. U. B. Currie, of

Shreveport, La., which he has declared his purpose to accept, conditioned upon the action of his Presbytery. Pressing the house-to-house work in connection with our daily services, we have had encouraging results. Nine adult members were received; eight children were baptized; \$10 for a pulpit Bible, and \$87.77 given for Presbyterian Home Mission work. The church building has just been re-covered, the interior re-papered and the old fence removed from the front side of the manse and church, making a great improvement. Already a fund has been started to erect a new and handsome church structure. The outlook here is encouraging, and the members and friends are very hopeful, and this is true of the entire community, because of the promise of a speedy relief from the liquor traffic and its manifold evils. From here I return to my home for a short rest, and then expect to go to DeQueen, Ark., to assist Rev. J. C. Williams.

Wm. H. Richardson.

FLORIDA.

Orlando: First Church (Rev. C. O. Groves, pastor). This church has recently received twenty-six new members, three by letter and twenty-three on profession of faith.

De Land: Rev. C. H. Ferran was installed pastor of the Presbyterian Church of De Land, Fla., Wednesday evening, December 1, 1909, by a commission of St. Johns Presbytery. Rev. J. F. McKinnon preached and propounded the questions, Rev. W. B. Cooper charged the pastor and D. L. Thrasher, elder in the Sanford Church, charged the people. Though held in the middle of the week, the service was well attended, and the large congregation showed interest by the closest attention. The location of Stetson University, at De Land makes the point one of unusual importance. Mr. Ferran is a young man with a successful career of several years in the ministry, and with a bright promise of future usefulness. He has been well received at De Land and enters upon his work with the most encouraging prospects.

J. F. M.

GEORGIA.

Atlanta: At the Central Church Mr. M. M. Jackson has been elected to the eldership and is to be installed next Sunday.

—At the First Church: Dr. Lingle has been preaching on Sunday nights especially to young men and they have taken a large interest. Last Sunday his theme was the three Hebrews in Babylon facing Nebuchadnezzar and the furnace.

—Westminster Church: Thursday night Westminster Sunday school held one of the most successful Christmas celebrations in its history. A committee had been chosen several weeks previous to systematize the plans and get everything in readiness for the annual event. The results were more than gratifying and not the least of these is the fact that